

Attorney Docket #: E6026-490

App. Serial No.: 10/825,517

Art Unit: 3641

Supplemental Amendment: August 15, 2007

Amendments to the Claims:

The claims in this listing will replace all prior claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) A centerfire autoloading pistol with loaded chamber indicator comprising:

a housing having an external surface and defining a chamber to receive a cartridge, the housing defining a fulcrum; and

a movable indicating element having a first front end, a second rear end, and a center equally-spaced therebetween, the front end located closer to the chamber than the rear end, the indicating element pivotally engaged with the fulcrum at the rear end, the indicating element being movable from a first position in which the indicating element does not protrude outwards from the external surface of the housing to a second position in which the indicating element protrudes outwards from the external surface of the housing, the indicating element being positioned generally behind the chamber;

wherein the indicating element is positioned in the housing to contact the cartridge and is movable to a position in which the indicating element protrudes outwards from the external surface of the housing to provide a user of the pistol with a visual and tactile indication that the cartridge is loaded in the chamber;

wherein the indicating element is retained within the housing by a horizontal surface located adjacent to the second end which mates with a corresponding horizontal surface in the housing, the horizontal surface in the housing being the bottom surface of a rear sight attached to the housing.

7. (previously presented) The pistol of claim 6, wherein the indicating element is pivotally engaged with the fulcrum with a pinless connection.

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8. (currently amended) The pistol of claim 6 ~~1~~, wherein indicia are provided on a side surface of the indicating element to communicate to the user that a cartridge is loaded in the chamber, the indicia comprising at least one alphanumeric character that is at least 0.085 inches tall and visible to the user when the indicating element protrudes outwards from the external surface of the housing.

9. (currently amended) The pistol of claim 6 ~~3~~, wherein the front end of the indicating element contacts the cartridge rim and has a width smaller than the width of the rear end to minimize intrusion into the housing near the chamber.

10. (currently amended) The pistol of claim 6 ~~1~~, wherein the indicating element is mounted in a top of the housing.

11. (currently amended) The pistol of claim 6 ~~10~~, wherein the indicating element is an elongated lever and the top of the housing comprises an elongated slot configured to pivotally receive the indicating element.

12. (original) The pistol of claim 11, wherein the lever further comprises a support base projecting downwards from a bottom surface of the lever which rests on the housing.

13. (original) The pistol of claim 12, wherein the elongated slot contains a landing configured to receive the support base of the lever.

14. (currently amended) The pistol of claim 6 ~~1~~, wherein the indicating element comprises a forward sloping surface on the first end to make smooth initial contact with the cartridge.

15-35. (canceled)